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Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A catalytic combustor for gas turbines comprising:

a plurality of ~~layered~~ plates defining[[; and]]

~~a catalyst; and~~

~~a plurality of air passages formed from said plates;~~

~~and~~

at least one first air passage, at least one second air passage, and a plurality of premixed fuel/air passages formed from said plates; and adjacent to the first and second air passages;

a catalyst within the plurality of premixed fuel/air passages; and

a means for heating in thermal contact with at least one side of said combustor first air passage, wherein said means for heating warms a first layer of plates air within the at least one first air passage to a predetermined temperature sufficient to initiate catalytic combustion within at least one premixed fuel/air passage such that the energy of activation for said catalyst is achieved; and

~~a second layer of plates which is heated by said first layer of plates such that a chain reaction ensues wherein the~~

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~~energy of activation is overcome for each successive layer of~~
~~said plurality of plates wherein the premixed fuel/air passages~~
~~are in thermal contact with the air passages such that air~~
~~within at least one second air passage is warmed to said~~
~~predetermined temperature by said premixed fuel/air passages.~~

Claim 10 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 9 wherein said plates are corrugated.

Claim 11 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 9 wherein said catalyst is any of the group consisting of rhodium, platinum, and palladium.

Claim 12 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 9 wherein said means for heating is any of the group consisting of an electric heater, a gas heater, and direct partial combustion of incoming air.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) The catalytic combustor of claim 9 wherein said ~~energy of activation~~ predetermined temperature is in the range of 900°F and 1000°F.

Claim 14 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 9 wherein said combustor reduces the formation of any of the group consisting of CO and NO_x.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) The catalytic combustor of claim 9 wherein said ~~chain reaction occurs in a cascade plates~~ are adapted to redirect air from each air passage to an adjacent premixed fuel/air passage.

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Claim 16 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 9 further comprising a temperature measurement device.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) A method of activating a catalytic combustor for gas turbines comprising the steps of:

blowing air through a plurality of air passages,
said blown air having a first temperature;

providing fuel to a plurality of fuel/air passages;
~~applying heat to at least one side of said combustor~~
~~for heating the air located in a first layer of air passages;~~
and

~~heating the plates which form a side of said first~~
~~layer of air passages by way of said heated air; and~~

~~blowing said heated air through said first layer of~~
~~air passages; and~~

redirecting said heated blown air into at least one
layer of premixed fuel/air passages passage; [[and]]

within less than an entirety of the plurality of air
passages, heating said blown air to a second temperature
sufficient to initiate catalytic combustion of said fuel and a
catalyst within the at least one premixed fuel/air passage with
the redirected air; and

~~heating the plates which form a side of said premixed~~
~~fuel/air passages by way of said heated air; and~~

~~providing fuel to said premixed fuel/air passages~~
~~wherein combustion occurs; and~~

~~directing the resulting thermal energy products into a~~
~~turbine to produce power while thermal energy from the~~
~~combustion process heats incoming air in successive layers~~
transferring heat generated by the catalytic combustion to at
least one air passage through which air is blown at the first

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temperature to heat said blown air to said second temperature.

Claim 18 (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said plates are corrugated.

Claim 19 (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the premixed fuel/air sides of said plates are coated with a catalyst.

Claim 20 (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said catalyst is any of the group consisting of rhodium, platinum, and palladium.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein ~~said air is heated to a~~ second temperature is in the range of 900°F and 1000°F.

Claim 22 (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the formation of any of the group consisting of CO and NO_x is reduced.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) A catalytic combustor for gas turbines comprising:

a plurality of layered tubes forming; and
~~a catalyst; and~~
~~a plurality of air passages formed from said tubes;~~
and

at least one first air passage, at least one second air passage, and a plurality of premixed fuel/air passages
~~formed from said tubes adjacent to the plurality of air~~
passages; and

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a means for heating in thermal contact with at least one side of said combustor at least one first air passage, wherein said means for heating warms ~~a first layer of tubes~~ air within at least one first air passage to a predetermined temperature sufficient to initiate catalytic combustion within at least one premixed fuel/air passage such that the energy of activation for said catalyst is achieved; and, wherein

~~a second layer of tubes which is heated by said first layer of tubes such that a chain reaction ensues wherein the energy of activation is overcome for each successive layer of said plurality of tubes~~ the premixed fuel/air passages are in thermal contact with the air passages such that air within at least one second air passage is warmed to said predetermined temperature.

Claim 24 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 23 wherein said catalyst is any of the group consisting of rhodium, platinum, and palladium.

Claim 25 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 23 wherein said means for heating is any of the group consisting of an electric heater, a gas heater, and direct partial combustion of incoming air.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended) The catalytic combustor of claim 23 wherein said ~~energy of activation~~ predetermined temperature is in the range of 900°F and 1000°F.

Claim 27 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 23 wherein said combustor reduces the formation of any of the group consisting of CO and NO_x.

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Claim 28 (Currently Amended) The catalytic combustor of claim 23 wherein said ~~chain reaction occurs in a cascade tubes~~ are adapted to redirect air from each air passage to an adjacent premixed fuel/air passage.

Claim 29 (Original) The catalytic combustor of claim 23 further comprising a temperature measurement device.